WTCI-280-P

MEMORANDUM

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PA 90-A
5-63

TO: F. H. Werneke
FROM: D. Herbstman
DATE: August 28, 1969
SUBJECT: SPRAY-ON FIRE PROTECTION OPERATION

REFERENCE:

COPY TO: Messrs: D. Brown, A. Kozma, R. Monti

On July 29, 1969, a pre-construction safety meeting was held between representatives of The Port Authority, TRCC, and Mario and DiBonno contractors for the spray-on fireproofing operation. A major part of this meeting involved discussions of protection from over-spray and possible air pollution problems resulting from free asbestos. To evaluate these potential problems an inspection was made on August 26, 1969 by the writer to determine whether safety and/or air pollution problems were being caused by this activity.

Two areas of fireproofing operation were surveyed. The first at the 284 level resulted in little overspray on airborne particulate matter. While there was some amount of this material deposited on the floor and surrounding area, this seemed to be more of a nuisance than a serious safety or air pollution problem. The operator of the applicator pipe was provided with a respirator, but he had to be reminded to use this device. It was recommended that a respirator suitable for protection from free asbestos dust be provided for all workers that may be exposed to this hazard.

The application of fireproofing material on the 310 level of Tower A seemed to be more of problem, in that wind conditions were causing considerable overspray and airborne particulate matter. Since, fireproofing material is a blend of various components, it was not possible to determine whether there were significant amounts of free asbestos present in the windblown material.

To determine if a safety problem exists and protective measures that should be taken, Mr. J. Bayliff, of The New York State Labor Department was contacted. Mr. Bayliff has arranged for an evaluation of the conditions associated with the spray-on fireproofing operation to take place on August 29, 1969.

A further report will be issued as to the results of the forthcoming inspection.

Donald Herbstman
Safety Supervisor
The World Trade Center

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